

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for performing a measurement in a network comprising:
creating an Internet Protocol Measurement Protocol (IPMP) packet by a measurement host;
including, in the IPMP packet, instructions for a recipient of the IPMP packet, said instructions including instructions to ~~[[a]]~~ the recipient to provide specified information and an instruction to ~~[[a]]~~ the recipient to insert any additional data desired by the recipient in the IPMP packet when forwarding the IPMP packet~~[[.]]~~;and
including, in the IPMP packet, an identification data element for enabling at least one network device to be identified as a redirect measurement host while redirecting the IPMP packet to the recipient, wherein the at least one network device is comprised in a route between the measurement host and the recipient.
2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
encapsulating the IPMP packet in an Internet Protocol (IP) datagram and a predetermined link layer protocol.
3. (Original) The method according to claim 2, further comprising sending the IPMP packet into the network from the measurement host.
4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the additional data includes traffic levels.
5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the additional data includes environmental data, weather data or other information that may impact communications link performance.

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for performing a measurement in a network comprising:
a processor disposed in a measurement host;
a memory coupled to the processor to store computer readable instructions causing the processor to:

create an Internet Protocol Measurement Protocol (IPMP) packet;

include in the IPMP packet instructions for a recipient of the IPMP packet,

said instructions including instructions to a recipient to provide specified information and an instruction to a recipient to insert any additional data desired by the recipient in the IPMP packet when forwarding the IPMP packet[.]; and

include, in the IPMP packet, an identification data element for enabling at least one network device to be identified as a redirect measurement host while redirecting the IPMP packet to the recipient, wherein the at least one network device is comprised in a route between the measurement host and the recipient.

7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said computer readable instructions further cause said processor to:

encapsulate the IPMP packet in an Internet Protocol (IP) datagram and a predetermined link layer protocol.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said computer readable instructions further cause said processor to send the IPMP packet into the network from the measurement host.

9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the additional data includes traffic levels.

10. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the additional data includes environmental data, weather data or other information that may impact communications link performance.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer readable media having encoded thereon computer readable instructions causing a processor to:

create an Internet Protocol Measurement Protocol (IPMP) packet;

include, in the IPMP packet, instructions for a recipient of the IPMP packet, said instructions including instructions to ~~the~~ the recipient to provide specified information and an instruction to ~~the~~ the recipient to insert any additional data desired by the recipient in the IPMP packet when forwarding the IPMP packet~~;~~; and

include, in the IPMP packet, an identification data element for enabling at least one network device to be identified as a redirect measurement host while redirecting the IPMP packet to the recipient, wherein the at least one network device is comprised in a route between the measurement host and the recipient.

12. (Original) The computer readable media according to claim 11, wherein said computer readable instructions further cause said processor to:

encapsulate the IPMP packet in an Internet Protocol (IP) datagram and a predetermined link layer protocol.

13. (Original) The computer readable media according to claim 12, wherein

said computer readable instructions further cause said processor to send the IPMP packet into the network from the measurement host.

14. (Original) The computer readable media according to claim 11, wherein the additional data includes traffic levels.

15. (Original) The computer readable media according to claim 11, wherein the additional data includes environmental data, weather data or other information that may impact communications link performance.